

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ABIDJA 06731 171536Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----058824 171538Z /46
O P 171501Z JUL 78 ZFF HELSINKI MOSCOW
FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9636
INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY

S E C R E T ABIDJAN 6731

EXDIS

DEPT PASS ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS

HELSINKI FOR CAT DELEGATION - MARTIN CHESHES

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, PCAT, US, XA, UR
SUBJECT: US-SOVIET CONVENTIONAL ARMS TALKS - AFRICA

REF: STATE 178349

1. SINCE PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY AND HIS IMMEDIATE STAFF ARE
IN GENEVA AND FOREIGN MINISTER AKE IS IN KHARTOUM, THERE ARE FEW
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PAGE 02 ABIDJA 06731 171536Z

IVORIAN OFFICIALS IN ABIDJAN WITH RANK AND COMPETENCE TO DISCUSS
CONCEPT OF REGIONAL RESTRAINT IN ARMS TRANSFERS. THERE IS NO,
REPEAT, NO IVORIAN OFFICIAL IN ABIDJAN WHO WOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO
ENDORSE APPLICATION OF THIS CONCEPT TO AFRICA. ONLY HOUPHOUET
HIMSELF COULD SPEAK AUTHORITATIVELY ON THIS SUBJECT, AND EVEN HE
WOULD BE APT TO ASK FOR MORE INFORMATION BEFORE COMMITTING HIMSELF.

2. SINCE REFTEL EMPHASIZES EXPLORATORY NATURE OF ANY DISCUSSIONS WE UNDERTAKE WITH SOVIETS AFFECTING ARMS TRANSFERS TO AFRICAN STATES, WE ASSUME THAT DEFINITIVE STATEMENT OF IVORIAN ATTITUDE IS NOT BEING SOUGHT AT THIS TIME. AMBASSADOR WILL THEREFORE SEEK MEETING WITH CHEF DU CABINET OF FOREIGN MINISTRY AGOUSSI DABA AND WILL COVER TALKING POINTS WITH HIM, SUGGESTING THAT AGOUSSI REPORT DEMARCHE TO HOUPHOUET IN GENEVA.

3. COMMENT: WE HAVE NOT YET BEEN ADVISED BY IVORIAN FOREIGN OFFICE WHEN AGOUSSI WILL BE ABLE TO RECEIVE AMBASSADOR, BUT IT WILL PROBABLY BE TOMORROW MORNING, TUESDAY, JULY 18.
STEARNS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 17 jul 1978
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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